Important Dates

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Welcome to another exciting and busy term. We would like to thank all the parents who attended the Parent Teacher Information Session last term. All staff were delighted to meet parents and exchange information regarding the academic and emotional well being of your child. Please arrange another time with the teacher if you were unable to attend.

It was great to see parents attend ANPS Harmony Day celebrations. Students enjoyed working with other students across the school to make windmills, bracelets and badges to mark this special day.

Reminders

Please ensure your child arrives at school on time before the 8.45am bell as learning begins at this time.

A healthy breakfast, prepared snack and lunch will assist with your child’s learning.

PARENT TEACHER INTERVIEWS:

This term students will participate in a program called ‘Kids Thrive’. The program will be conducted every Tuesday until the end of term.

You are very welcome to come along and join in if you have the time.

Education Week will be held between May 16th-20th. Students will participate in many activities across the school to celebrate the week and you will have the opportunity to join in these activities and visit your child’s classroom.

Parents will have an opportunity to meet their child’s teacher on Wednesday 16th June to exchange information and discuss your child’s progress across the curriculum.

ENGLISH

Students will continue to practise good reading behaviours. They will continue to select ‘Just Right Books’ and practise effective strategies to become better readers.

In Spelling, students will continue to work towards reading and writing their Oxford Words. Students will also participate in ‘Spelling Investigations’ where they are encouraged to look at letter sound relationships and various spelling patterns.

In Writing, students will focus on the following genres Personal Narratives, Narratives, Information Texts and Poetry.

Students will continue to write about their experiences in their Writer’s Notebook. Students are still encouraged to bring memorabilia to school (photos, brochures, magazine cuttings, articles, pictures etc.) These can be pasted into their Writer’s Notebook and used as visual prompts for writing ideas.

MATHEMATICS

The topics we will be working on this term are Counting, Addition, Subtraction, Division, Location, Chance and Data and Fractions.

- Looking for number patterns in the environment. (house numbers). Practise skip counting by 2’s, 5’s and 10’s.
- Everyday problem solving activities to do with addition, subtraction and division.
- Discuss how to get from one place to another or finding an object by using location vocabulary such as above, below or turn right etc.
- Discuss what fractions you use or see in your everyday lives. (half an apple a quarter of a cake).

Our humanities based topic for this term is ‘Our Neighbourhood’.

Our Major Topic Understanding is:

Knowing our neighbourhood and how it changes, helps us to understand how we can care for and contribute as active citizens to our community.

Our Focus Questions are:

- What is a neighbourhood?
- How and why has our neighbourhood changed?
- How does our neighbourhood reflect our community?
- Why is it important for us to care and contribute to our community?

1/2 Unit

Class Teachers: Julie Georgiou, Chantal Touma, David Jaggard
Support Staff: Mary Day
Visual Arts
During Term 1, the children in the Grade 1 / 2 unit will be exposed to the use of lines, shapes, patterns and colour in artwork. Viewing the artwork of Wassily Kandinsky will enhance their learning and they will gain inspiration to create their own artwork.
In the lead up to Harmony Day, the children will briefly learn about different cultures and complete activities, including the drawing of cultural body decorations, relating to the theme, ‘Everyone Belongs’.
The children will contribute to the Art in Public Places display at the Louis Joel Arts and Community Centre. This year’s theme is ‘The Age of the Dinosaur’. Could children please be supplied with an art smock to protect their clothing during art? An old oversized shirt, clearly labelled with their name would be fine. Art smocks will not be stored in the art room and will become the responsibility of the child. Please become aware of the day that your child has art so that you may remind them to bring their art smock to school. Thank you.
Deb Morgan

Computers
During this term, the children will use the ‘eduSTAR’ toolbar to access different programs. They will be using the programs ‘KidPix4’ and ‘Kidspiration’ to produce pictures and visual representations of their learning, for their Inquiry Unit, ‘Getting Along / Healthy Me’. The children will further develop the skills of using the paint, pencils, stamps, etc. during the creation of their work and will be writing sentences and linking pictures about their learning. They will be learning how to save and open their work from their class file.
Joanne Jackson

Sustainability
In grade P-2 the students will be introduced to the recycling programs at ANPS through the practical use of the paper, can/plastics, worm bins and waste bin.
The students are encouraged to be aware of the need to care for the environment in which we live in, through every day actions and behaviours. Monitors from each grade are responsible for the weekly collection of classroom recycling products.
Throughout the year the students will participate in an environmental education session in the worm room, and be involved in the hands on practical understanding of how their waste is recycled at ANPS using the schools worm farms/ paper and cans/plastic recycling programs.
In grade 3/4 the student are responsible for the management of the recycling bins in the eating areas of the schoolyard. Students are encouraged to show leadership with monitors from each grade responsible for the weekly collection of classroom recycling products.
In grade 5/6 the students take an active and leading role in the organisation and management of the schools recycling program. Students are encouraged to be sustainable in their use of all their resources. Students are also responsible for the collection of water from the bucket that are placed under the taps in the playground, and used to water newly planted native plants in the school gardens.
This year we look forward to two major projects, the construction of our second “Garden wall” which will further enhance our school ground and learning landscape, and the building of the “Vegetable Garden”. Both projects are exciting initiatives in the development of the school’s environmental and sustainability program. We look forward to the student participation components in these projects throughout the 2014 school year.
Wal Raghdo

Music and Performing Arts
Grade 1/2 students will continue to develop their musical ability and use percussion instruments and body percussion to play and create music, soundscapes and sound effects to stories.
Students will develop their performance skills within small groups and perform to one another in the classroom.
Students will also focus on singing, remembering and performing a variety of songs which will link to their inquiry topic of, ‘Getting Along’ and ‘Healthy Me’.
All students will use journals to record and reflect on their Music & Performing Arts lessons. These will also be used to write and keep any music, lyrics, practice schedules or ideas they may have in and out of class.
There will be opportunities for students to audition for the ANPS Junior choir.
Cassie McCawley

Physical Education
Term One will be an exciting time for the 1/2 students as they will be continuing to develop the fundamental skills of run, bounce, roll and trap. The students will begin to experiment with a wide variety of equipment to develop their skills, including hoops and small balls. Close attention will be placed on ball control with the introduction of modified sports. The students will explore movement through games that require them to run, gallop, skip and hop.
The students will continue to participate in the Perceptual Motor Program (PMP), which aims at developing the student’s ability to receive, interpret and respond successfully to sensory information.
The PMP program is proven is assist with students learning within the classroom environment and can support the development in Literacy and Numeracy skills.
Lynette Solo